

Lisa Ann L. Mangat, Director

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION Diablo Range District 15751 Tesla Road Livermore, CA 94550

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

August 16 2021

STATE CLEARING HOUSE

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Sean Dougan, Trails Development Program Manager East Bay Regional Park District 2950 Peralta Oaks Court Oakland, CA 94605

RE: California Department of Parks and Recreation's Comments on SCH#2021070159, East Bay Regional Park District's (EBRPD) IS/MND for the March Creek Regional Trail Project - Brentwood to Round Valley Regional Preserve

Dear Mr. Dougan;

California State Parks (CSP) offers the following comments on the IS/MND for the proposed Marsh Creek Regional Trail Project. Under the California Environmental Quality Act, CSP is both a Trustee and a Responsible Agency for this project given its location primarily occurring within the boundaries of Marsh Creek State Park (MCSP).

While CSP is supportive of eventually having a public trail across Marsh Creek State Park property, the park is not currently open to the public. There are currently no facilities or resources available to support public use. CSP has conducted surveys to identify a suitable non-culturally sensitive location for visitor center and facilities, and we recommend close coordination with CSP as you develop a project timeline.

The current alignment of the trail as presented is not recommended by CSP cultural staff. The trail will have several impacts that not acceptable to the department as addressed in the Cultural mitigations. The cultural staff recommends a change to the alignment of the trail. This change in alignment that is recommended is to the west of the John Marsh Home. This new alignment would avoid damaging NRHP resources and not call undue attention to a culturally sensitive area. CSP cultural staff will remain in direct communication with resource specialists at EBRPD on this issue.

If you have any questions about this comment letter or would like to discuss project activities within Marsh Creek State Park, please contact Diablo Range District Environmental Coordinator Gina Benigno at 916-409-8392 or gina.benigno@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Clinton Elsholz, Natural Resource Manager Diablo Range District